PTO/SB/06A (08-00) /pproved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449APTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT E STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

 Application Number
 09963,243

 Filing Date
 September 26, 2001

 First Named Inventor
 Curt R. EYSTER

 Group Art Unit
 1743

 Examiner Name
 L. ALEXANDER

 Attorney Docket Number
 LFS-123USNP

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | U.S. Patent Document | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---|--|--|--|---|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No.1 | Kind Code ² Number (if known) | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy | Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear |
| | | 4,387,990 | | Kenichiro YAZAWA, et al. | 06-14-1983 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

EODEIGN BATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite | Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ KindCode ⁵ | | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy | Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear | T ₀ |
|----------------------|------|--|--|--|--|--|--|----------------|
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

| Examiner | Date | |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Signature | Considered | |

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case, Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer. U. S. Petent and T Indexmark (Washington, DC 20231, DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

[•] Unique clation designation number: See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3), 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reging of the Empirer must precede the serial number of the patent document. skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.